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QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Letter dated 21 February from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights

I must recall that at its last session, the Commission on Human Rights adopted resolution 1990/54 of 6 March 1990 on the situation of human rights in southern Lebanon. In paragraph 5 of that resolution, the Commission requested the Secretary-General (a) to bring the resolution to the attention of the Government of Israel and to invite it to provide information concerning the extent of its implementation thereof, and (b) to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-seventh session on the results of his efforts in that regard.

I regret to inform you that until now, no such report has been submitted to the Commission although the Commission has already commenced its consideration of the agenda item under which the report is supposed to be considered.

My delegation inquired at the Secretariat several times about this report; the Secretariat informed us that the report will be issued as E/CN.4/1991/32, but unfortunately this has not happened, and yesterday the Secretariat explained that they are unable to issue the report because they "had not received any reply from the Government of Israel".

I cannot but express my full disappointment. It goes without saying that there is a need to highlight the irresponsibility shown by the Israeli Government in regard to the Commission and its resolutions. The Israeli attitude, I believe, should be considered very seriously because it creates a very dangerous precedent and may undoubtedly encourage others to disregard the Commission and its resolutions.

I ask you kindly to use your good offices to see this document issued very soon, and wish that this unfortunate incident may not take place again. I also wish to have this communication distributed as an official document of the Commission.

I must conclude by expressing my sincere respects and gratitude to the Secretariat.

(Signed): Amine El Khazen
Ambassador